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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Murmanska Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Observations, Including the Sighting of Naval Vessels, in and Near Kola Inlet

DATE DISTR. 17 November 1959

NO. PAGES 2

REFERENCES

50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO.
PLACE &
ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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	reports on the
Kola Inlet	

1. Attachment 1, [redacted] contains sightings of submarines at the mouth of Kola Inlet and in the vicinity of Polyarnyy; unidentified naval vessels at Rosta, in Guba Vayenga, and Guba Tyuva; four-engined swept-wing jet aircraft over Kol Inlet; possible buoys for a torpedo net in Guba Vayenga; and gun emplacements on Mys Letinskiy. Two destroyers observed at N 69-30, E 35-00.

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[redacted] these vessels had flush decks and thus thought that they belonged to the KOTLIN class.

2. Attachment 2, [redacted] contains sightings of unidentified naval vessels and four or five submarines at Rosta.

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3. Attachment 3, [redacted] contains sightings of four possible RIGA-class escort vessels entering Kola Inlet, and of two submarines and two naval vessels resembling KOTLIN-class destroyers [redacted] at Murmansk. A vessel observed at [redacted] Murmansk which resembled a SVERDLOV-class cruiser [redacted] was also described, and a description of the harbor at Murmansk was included.

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4. Attachment 4, [redacted] contains sightings of three cruisers in Vayenga Bay. One cruiser, [redacted] had two triple gun turrets on the forecastle, two smokestacks, a break to the main deck at the forward stack, and two triple gun turrets on the afterdeck. The other two cruisers, [redacted] had two triple gun turrets on the forecastle, two smokestacks, a break to the afterdeck aft of the after smokestack, and two triple gun turrets on the afterdeck. A sketch (which is included) of the deck line of these latter two vessels indicated that they were SVERDLOV-class cruisers.

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5. Attachment 4 also contains sightings of a cruiser [redacted] a flush-decked destroyer [redacted] two auxiliary vessels [redacted] and three submarines at Rosta; 14 MTBs on the shore at Mys Velikiy and a submarine [redacted] at the mouth of Kola Inlet. Descriptions of military coastal installations near the Kola Inlet and of harbor activity at Murmansk are also included.

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Attachment 1.
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2.

COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJECT: Port Report - The Kola Fjord

s sighted that the informant main-

DATE OF REPORT: 8 October 1959

NAVAL: a) [redacted] at a position 69° 30' N - 35° 00' E, two medium-large naval vessels were observed as they seemingly engaged in some sort of maneuvers, as they sailed around on varying courses.

Description: [redacted] The ships were flush decked, had

a gun turret forward that had two barrels, followed by a bridge, a mast, a smokestack, torpedo-ejection tubes, a mast with a very large radar-like antenna screen at the top, a smokestack, torpedo-ejection tubes and a gun-turret on the after-deck like that on the forecastle. [redacted]

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b). That same day, several submarines were observed at the mouth of the Kola Fjord, but all of them were seen at such a great distance [redacted]

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c) [redacted] in Tuva Bay, several naval vessels were observed lying at anchor far [redacted] inside the Bay. The [redacted] ship passed by the mouth of the Bay [redacted]

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[redacted] there were destroyers there, as well as smaller units.

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d) After passing Polyarnoye, a submarine was sighted

The sub was

seen at such a great distance

it resembled an ordinary submarine.

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e) [redacted] a number of floats were observed in Vaenga Bay

[redacted] were buoys for a torpedo-net. Inside the obstacle were four very large naval vessels lying at anchor. Three of the vessels were identical and appeared to be very modern, while the fourth appeared to be somewhat older and was evidently the same size.

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f) [redacted] in the naval shipping yard at Rosta, a very large naval ship was observed that was identical to the modern vessels in Vaenga. The vessel had scaffolding around the masts and smokestacks, and was partially red-lead painted. The ship appeared to be undergoing a thorough overhauling.

No submarines were observed at Rosta.

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AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY: [redacted] in the Kola Fjord there was great activity on the part of very large jet-airplanes. The planes flew in over the Fjord and appeared to land on an approximate southerly course at an airbase south of Vaenga.

Description: The airplanes had wings angled sharply back, and had four jet engines on the wings.

Some of the planes appeared to land behind the mountains southeast of Letinski Point.

SHORE INSTALLATIONS: The [redacted] ship passed near Letinski Pt. on its way eastward. On the mountain near the point were observed several large guns in various places. The guns were placed in positions that were very difficult to sight. [redacted]

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COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJECT: Port Report - Murmansk

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DATE OF REPORT: 13 October 50X1-HUM

1. NAVAL: [REDACTED] two very large naval vessels, lying beside each other, were observed at the pier at Rosta.

Description: The vessels seemed to be identical. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the ships were in for overhauling and were partially red- lead painted. The ships had to gun turrets aft. Around the masts and smoke- stacks there were wooden scaffolds all the way to the top. The scaffolding was of wood and had a gray-brown color as if the wood had aged.

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Four or five submarines also lay at Rosta. The subs lay in such a way

that

The subs

[REDACTED] were ordinary, with a tower that seemed to be straight on both forward and after sides. No armaments or other objects were visible. [REDACTED]

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Several destroyer-like vessels were also

observed at Rosta. [REDACTED]

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[Redacted Box] 2.

At the beginning of August, the ship bunkered at the same place. The
[Redacted Box] ship this time was given only about 120 tons in spite of the order
having been for 300 tons. The oil this time was extremely poor and contained,
among other things, rags and other trash.

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Attachment 3.

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COUNT [redacted]

SUBJECT: Port Report - Murmansk

DATE OF REPORT: 8 October 1959

1. NAVAL: [redacted]

a. On a level with Pier No. 17 but on the west side of the fjord was a naval vessel, lying at anchor. [redacted]

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b. On a level with Pier No. 24 but on the west side of the fjord was a naval vessel, lying at anchor. [redacted]

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[redacted] the vessels were very similar and were five or six thousand tonners.

[redacted] it was the

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KOTLIN class that the vessels most resembled.

c. At Pier No. 23, or possibly No. 24, was a naval vessel that resembled the two mentioned under a and b, but this latter ship was much larger, a ten or fifteen thousand tonner. [redacted]

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d. [redacted]

[redacted] the SVERDLOV-class as being most similar to the ship.

d. At the pier just north of the dry-dock lay two submarines at anchor. [redacted]

e. [redacted] :

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[redacted] passing Sedlovati, four naval vessel entered the Kola Fjord at a speed of about 20 to 25 knots.

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Description: All of the vessels belonged to the same class and were about two thousand tons. There was only one mast and one smokestack. On being shown the vessel silhouettes, [redacted] the vessels resembled the RIGA class.

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f. Somewhat later, [redacted] east of Toros, eight or possibly ten MTB's went by, into the Kola Fjord. [redacted]

2. THE HARBOR:

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a. [redacted] Pier No. 10 was approximately 800 feet long, and [redacted] the depth along the southwest end was 26 feet.

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b. The apatite was stored in a silo on the pier. [redacted] the silo took fifty thousand tons. Two belts brought the cargo to the ship from the silo.

c. The silo was the height of an ordinary three-storey house. Railroad tracks went from the top of the silo and in towards land on the pier. From the railroad cars, the apatite was tipped through openings at the top of the silo. This also continued while the ship took on cargo.

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3.

[redacted]

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Announcement

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COUNTRY:

SUBJECT: Port Report - Murmansk

DATE OF REPORT: 13 October 1959

1. NAVAL: a. [redacted] one cruiser, one destroyer and some smaller vessels were observed tied up side-by-side at the pier in Rosta.

Description: The cruiser [redacted] and was of the same type

(see Point d). [redacted]

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b. At the same time as the above an auxiliary vessel was observed at anchor, outside of Rosta. On either side and tied side-by-side to the ship were three submarines.

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c. [redacted] fourteen MTB'S were observed on the shore at Veliki Pt.

d. [redacted] three cruisers and twenty smaller naval vessels were observed

lying at anchor in Vayenga Bay.

Description:

two triple

[redacted] gun turrets on the forecastle, two smokestacks, break to the after deck aft of the after smokestack, two triple gun turrets on the after deck.

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e. [redacted] a submarine was observed at the mouth of the

Kola Fjord on its way out to sea.

Description:

The tower was

straight on the forward and after sides and rounded at the top. The sub did not carry any visible guns.

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2. SHORE INSTALLATIONS: Up on the shore, above the eastern shore of the Kola Fjord at a position circa 69° 01' N, some military barracks were sighted. In front of the barracks stood a number of guns covered with tarpaulin, and only some of the barrels were visible.

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[redacted] the guns were BOFORS.

[redacted] in the evening, a row of red lights were observed on an elevation, south of Graznaya Bay.

On an elevation west of Roslyakova four "tank tops" were observed that seemed to be the tops of tanks buried in the ground.

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[redacted] On the pier stood ten tank-cars.

[redacted] nine tank-cars pulled by a steam engine on

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the way northward on the railroad line east of the pier.

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4.

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